

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 577

By Burchett

A RESOLUTION to request the State Board of Education to study and develop a program to provide safe passage to and from school for every child.

WHEREAS, the safety of the children of Tennessee is of the utmost concern to every member of this General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the route a child must travel to and from school, especially for those children who walk to school, may include unknown perils as school systems limit school bus routes, possibly requiring a child to walk to and from school by a house where a registered sex offender resides; and

WHEREAS, local school systems should make every effort possible to prevent such situations from occurring, and the members of this body should appropriately request guidance and assistance for the local school systems from the State Board of Education, the Department of Education, and the Department of Safety; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that the State Board of Education is hereby requested to study and develop a practical procedure whereby local education agencies, working with the assistance of the Department of Education and the Department of Safety, can readily establish school bus routes that would provide bus service to any child who would otherwise be walking to and from school past the home of a registered sex offender.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in conducting such study, the State Board of Education should examine the policies and procedures of other states that have implemented

any such similar program and shall report its findings to the General Assembly by January 15, 2006.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Executive Director of the State Board of Education.